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SIPDIS

STATE FOR EUR/CE; NSC FOR STERLING

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/06/2018
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [ECON](#) [PREL](#) [SI](#)
SUBJECT: PARLIAMENT CONFIRMS BORUT PAHOR AS SLOVENIA'S NEW
PRIME MINISTER

REF: A. LJUBLJANA 500
[1](#)B. LJUBLJANA 459
[1](#)C. LJUBLJANA 431

Classified By: Amb. Yousif B. Ghafari, Reasons 1.4 (b,d)

[1](#)1. (SBU) On November 7, Parliament voted 59 to 24 to confirm Borut Pahor, leader of the Social Democrats (SD), as Slovenia's Prime Minister. He immediately took office even though the rest of the government is not formed. It had been clear since SD's win in the September 21 elections that Pahor would be the nominee (ref C), so it came as no surprise when President Turk nominated him on November 3. On November 6, Pahor and the leaders of Zares, Liberal Democrats of Slovenia (LDS), and DeSUS, initialed a coalition agreement, although negotiations on distribution of ministerial and senior positions will continue. Pahor hopes to announce a team of ministers next week. Parliament then must vote on the cabinet no earlier than 48 hours and no later than 7 days after Pahor proposes it. Pahor said he would ask the opposition for a grace period until the new year to allow for the consolidation of the government, especially because of the global financial crisis.

Comment

[1](#)2. (C) Pahor has indicated to the Ambassador a desire to continue our close bilateral relationship (ref B), as have members of his team. We will report on his new government as it forms.
GHAFARI